Agitation by Lawyers against amendments in Cr. PC

1037. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the agitation by lawyers from Tamil Nadu and other States regarding the recent amendments in the Code of Criminal Procedure; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Act, 2005 is yet to come into effect.

Foreign nationals in Indian Jails

1038. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state.

(a) the total number of foreigners languishing in Indian Jails at present;

(b) whether it is a fact that their upkeep is becoming a burden for Government resources;

(c) whether the High Court of Delhi has asked Government to frame a policy for their release or set a time frame for their cases;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT): (a) As per statistics complied by the National Crime Record Bureau, there were 2205 foreign nationals in various jails of the country as on 31.12.2003.

(b) Foreign prisoners constitute only about 0.7% of the total prison population in the country. Therefore, the burden on the resources of the Government for upkeep of foreign prisoners is minimal.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.